



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

AUTUMN EDITION OCTOBER 2014



The Chairman's A.G.M. report

This year has seen some entertaining and interesting speakers, not least the excellent evenings we have had with our own members presenting. I would like to thank those who gave presentations as I know how much work is involved and we should be pleased to have such knowledgeable, willing members.

Our membership has dropped this year from 65 to 56. However, attendance at the evening meetings is normally good and the Monday afternoon meetings are as popular as ever and the programme is decided by the members attending. I know that the committee would welcome your ideas for the Thursday meetings. Please let a committee member know if you would like a specific speaker or topic to be included in the annual programme.

The T.D.P.S. was formed in 1966 and so our 50th anniversary is not too far off in 2016. We would like to commemorate the event in some way and would value your ideas and suggestions.

To finish, I would like to thank all the committee for their hard work - Mike Gurr for chairing the meetings in my absence, Graeme for organising everything, Mike for worrying about the money and Colin for looking after the library and being generally helpful. Dave continues to be in charge of club stamps and accessories - do use him - he can get good discounts, Martin who looks after the publicity and newsletter, Julia our archivist, the 'Tea Ladies' (including honorary tea lads who help), and all the other members who chip in to assist us in so many ways.

Thank you all - Barney Bardsley, Chairman.

Year 48

Issue 126

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Tony Jordan the winner of the Monday Cup Competition.

For further information on anything in this newsletter please contact

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*or
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Photo Gallery



The Japanese



The destruction starts



Roosevelt et al



One of Tony's illustrated covers



Mike Gurr and Bob Paterson with their displays



Barney and his display of 'wing margins'



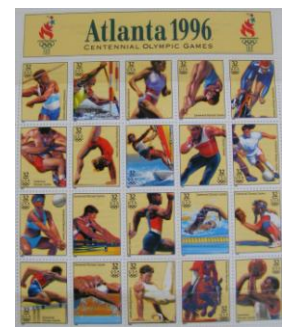
The very first Picture Post magazine



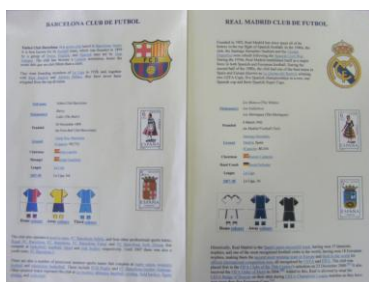
Lovely pictorial Aerogramme covers



The 2012 Olympic Games



Atlanta Games of 1996



Spanish Sport issues



Bruce Bairnsfather cartoons of WW1



Isle of Man TT races

PAST EVENTS

Monday 7th July

This was the day of `The Monday Cup` - the 3-sheet annual competition, and from 19 members attending we had an excellent 12 of them entering. As usual, the entries were judged by the members giving marks for 1st, 2nd and 3rd but not voting for themselves!

All of the entries were very interesting and well presented and the results were as follows :-

First	37 points	Tony Jordan	Pre-1900 Illustrated Covers
Second	20 points	Mike Gurr	Birds of Prey
Third	19 points	Dave Tanner	Early American Air Mails

The new Monday Cup (the old one just gave up) was presented to **Tony** by **Mike Gurr** as vice Chairman.

Before half time there was a mini auction run by **David Beddoes** when 5 from 21 lots were sold.

For the second half **Bob Paterson** presented a great philatelic display all about the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour and he spoke about the events that preceded and provoked the attack.

The attack was planned by Admiral Yamamoto and Admiral Nagumo's fleet set sail in November 1941 with 6 aircraft carriers and 400 aircraft. On the day of infamy, December 7th, 200 miles to the north west, the aircraft were launched and also several mini submarines were able to sneak through the safety nets. The harbour radar reports of aircraft on the screens were believed to be local aircraft and so no action was taken! The U.S. carriers were not there but 8 ships and destroyers were. The USS Oklahoma was a dead loss and the hulk of the USS Arizona is still there in the harbour. The rest of the damaged ships were put back into service after extensive repairs.

Bob also showed lots of cards and postcards to and from the relevant ships and their crews.

All in all a very interesting talk and illustrative display material.

Thursday July 17th

On a very warm evening, with 19 members present, the subject was `Members Entertain`. **Bob Paterson** and **Mike Gurr** shared the first half with **Barney Bardsley** having the second half.

Mike started the evening by talking about and showing a journey through his crazy collecting world from 1997 to the present. He started with some old family albums which led him on to bird stamps and birds of prey that included kingfishers, buzzards, kestrels, falcons, red kites and ospreys. Then Mike went on to talk about Fire Engines of various nationalities and types with cinderellas, covers, letters and logos and he talked about the Windsor Castle fire and issues as he was there as a serving fireman. He finished off with issues from the Isle of Man which he particularly likes. The talk was illustrated with lots of sheets of stamps and covers and booklets that made an excellent display.

Bob Paterson then took over the floor to show a collection of covers and stamps from Vichy France under Marshal Petain from 1940-44 that he has acquired over the last few years. These included Petain issues, Charity stamps that raised monies for organisations, Red Cross fund issues, War Victims, Pension funds, and censored mail covers. He then showed `fund stamps` for musicians, seamen, prisoners families, Petain's birthday issues on a large cover and finished up with speaking about the Normandy landings when the game was up and the Vichy government collapsed. A very interesting and informative display.

For the second half our Chairman **Barney Bardsley** took to the floor to talk about `Wing-Margin` issues or `a bit on the side` as they are also known in certain places. They were printed from 1855 to 1889 by De La Rue as 4d and 6d issues of 12-pane format. The Post Office was paranoid about forgeries and in 1862 the 4-corner letters started. There were 9d and 1/- issues, the 2/- blues of five shades and Barney has 3 or 4 of them (that are quite difficult to get hold of). In 1873 there was design change for the 6d grey

In 1876 the 4d vermilion was issued. In 1880 wing margins ceased and de la Rue printed sheets as we know now (at Somerset House) with 240 stamps per sheet with no more wing margins. Barney illustrated the data with some lovely sheets of those early issue – some of single stamps but many of full early sheets. Quite a comprehensive display of material and very interesting to learn of the histories involved.

As usual, there was no Monday meeting in August.

Thursday August 23rd

The theme for today was `Something of Interest that I have Found` and we had 15 members present – well it was a Bank Holiday weekend!

John Tingey started the evening off by showing a collection of `puzzle postcards` that had hidden pictures within pictures. He had found 5 of them but none of us could find the young man within the picture of some young ladies. They are very lovely and highly collectable items.

Bob Paterson showed a large collection of stuff that he bought from a local auction house which turned out to be something of a treasure trove. There were lots of postal items to and from the Coleman family. Coleman was living in France and was interned during the war. His speciality was translating legal documents, although he was an agent for a boot company.

Graeme Stuart showed some interesting early envelopes, several early aerogramme sheets and postage due stamps. He also brought along for our delight some other things that he had found -

Two Dead Frozen Moles !!!!!

Sue Hopson showed us some letters to Elliot`s of Newbury, the old furniture company that was in Newbury from 1882 to 1974.

Malcolm Hoskins started off the second half by showing some delightful postcards of WW1 that were all painted by Bruce Bairnsfather who became famous as the creator of Old Bill, the blob-nosed walrus moustached old soldier who appeared in many of his `Fragments from France` cartoons depicting life at the front that were published in the `Bystander` magazine from 1915.

Juliet Keel brought some items relating to Red Cross ambulance drivers from WW1, Jean Cocteau`s experiences and also Somerset Maugham`s activities during WW1.

Ian Keel brought some things that he had found while travelling abroad including two lovely stamp albums of Russian stamps that he acquired in a Moscow market that turned out to be worth quite a lot! Finally, to bring the evening to a close, **Martin Farr** showed some very early magazines that included the first Radio Times from September 28 1923, a Picture Post magazine from 16th May 1942 (his birthday) and the very first and second issues of the Picture Post from October 1st and 8th 1938. These were all acquired for a song many years ago from the back of a wagon at Ascot racecourse!

Monday 1st September

The subject for this meeting was `Sport` and there were 17 members present of which 10 wished to show some items.

Mike Gurr started with some Isle of Man issues of the TT races and the 90th anniversary of motor racing. **David Beddoes** showed us many covers and cards from New Zealand about cricket, golf, athletics, rugby and football plus their Commonwealth games issues. **Juliet Keel`s** granny said that sports are only hunting shooting and fishing but Juliet showed several pictorial covers and cards of girls sports such as tennis, swimming, netball and cricket. **Sue Hopson** showed us illegal use of a specimen overprinting on the 1980 Olympic issues. **Jim Mowat** brought along many Spanish sports issues to include their football league clubs with team kits and insignia, Bullfighting issues of 1960, field sports of the winter Olympics plus shooting, gymnastics, rowing and fencing issues and finished off with their 1979 `Sports for All` issues to encourage participation for everyone. Quite a collection.

At half time there was another mini-auction where 7 lots from 20 were sold.

Then **Ian Keel** showed some football PHQ cards, Paralympic covers and mint sheets and an album just filled with items covering many other sports.

John Taylor brought some Olympic sets and lots of winners from past games plus several youth teams. He also showed several football sheets and full sheet from the Atlanta games. **Tony Hillier** showed several sheets of Belgian sports stamps including the 80th anniversary of cycling clubs. Then he showed items from the Mexico and Russian Olympics covering various events then, to finish off some, Belgian tennis stamps of the Beijing Olympics. **Bob Paterson** showed items from the 1924 French Olympics covering the Tour de France, wrestling, skiing covers, judo, rock climbing (now there is a different one), archery and bowls. Finally **Jerry Wilson** covered the London 2012 Paralympic games showing stamps depicting all the gold medal winners some of won several gold medals each.

BARGAIN FOR STAMP COLLECTORS

PENNY SALE 12 SETS
FAMOUS SETS OF STAMPS
All for 1/-

Imagine owning all 12 of these fascinating and unusual sets of 3, 5, 9 even 13 stamps for just a penny a set! You'd have to pay 6d., 9d., 1/- up to 2/- for each set - if you could find them anywhere else!

As a special bargain to EAGLE readers you can have all 12 sets, a grand total of 61 all different stamps, worth 11/6, for just 1/-! Look what you get!

1. MONACO - new MIRACLE OF LOURDES magnificent set of 3. The set-of-the-year!
2. INDIA - 1956 Map set of 9 with new currency.
3. BRAZIL - Midget Leprosy set of 2. Tiniest in existence.
4. ARGENTINA - Eva Peron set of 4.
5. SPUTNIKs - Germany & Czech. First 2 space stamps.
6. RED CHINA - Liberation of Canton imperfs. Complete set of 5, to \$100 Hi-Value.
7. POLAND 1953 - Navy commemoratives, complete set of 2.
8. CANADA - Queen Elizabeth portrait set of 5.
9. CHILE - Pre-war high value Pictorial set of 4.
10. ALBANIA - 37 year old semi-official Revolution set of 5.
11. EAST GERMANY - Five Year Plan provisionals set of 7.

FREE!

1. BOY SCOUT SHEET
2. PLANET MAIL SHEET

Two smashing souvenirs (not stamps) that will be the prizes of your collection.

12 MYSTERY SET
A truly remarkable, long, large and interesting semi-official set from a famous European country. There are 13 different stamps and they make the most dazzling part in your album. This set alone is worth much more than the price of the entire lot.

MAIL COUPON TODAY

TO: BROADWAY APPROVALS, 486, OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1

enclose 1/- with the Lot \$100 stamp set. Stamp and Planet Sheets include a selection of 12 stamps for free appreciation.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

BROADWAY APPROVALS, 486, OLD KENT RD, LONDON, S.E.1

I found this advert in a copy of the Eagle comic from March 1950 – it takes you back a bit!

Thursday 18th September - the Annual General meeting

The meeting started at 7.45pm and there were 24 members present which was quite good for an AGM.

The minutes of the last meeting were read out. There were no matters arising and they were passed.

Our chairman Barney Bardsley started the proceedings by reading out his annual report which can be read on page 1. Then the treasurer Mike Ward gave his financial report which was quite favourable but the income to the society is mostly generated by auctions, club stamps and Westbex. With a reducing membership hall fees are outstripping subscriptions. The balance of funds is quite healthy but for how long? It was agreed and passed unanimously that subs would remain at £10 per annum which is not bad for 23 meetings. The financial report was passed unanimously.

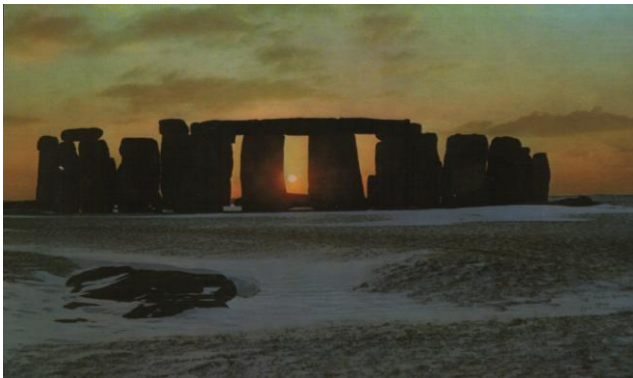
The election of Society Officers then followed. There were no further nominations over and above the present committee and they were all willing to serve another term. Also, our President John Baron, was willing to serve another term as honorary financial examiner. All these positions were re-elected unanimously and can be seen on the back page of the magazine.

Graeme Stuart gave his Westbex 2014 report. We had 22 dealers and reasonable weather but never seem to get more than 120-30 visitors. Thanks to all who provided valuable assistance on the Friday and Saturday. There are 17 dealers booked for 2015 so far and Westbex 2015 will be held on 28th March.

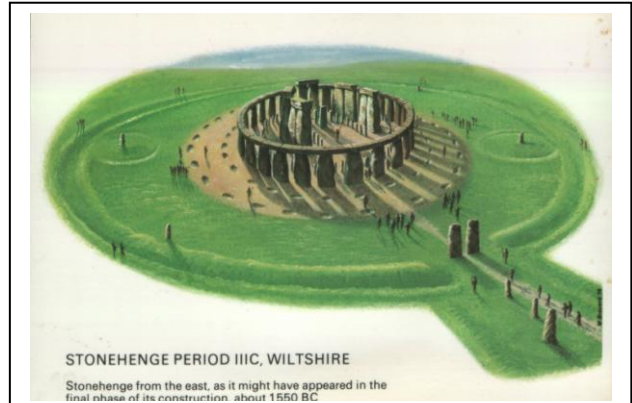
The packet circuit. Mike Gurr could not be with us but 11 boxes have completed the circuit giving £136.95 for club funds. In the future our box circuit will be combined with Basingstokes circuit. When the circuits are finished ours will go to them and theirs will come to us. What a good idea. Thanks to Mike for all the organisation and paperwork.

Finally, suggestions will be greatly appreciated as to what we can and should do to celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2016. We then had half-time Cheese and Wine for all followed by two small auctions run by Dave Tanner and David Beddoes.

THE POSTCARD PAGE

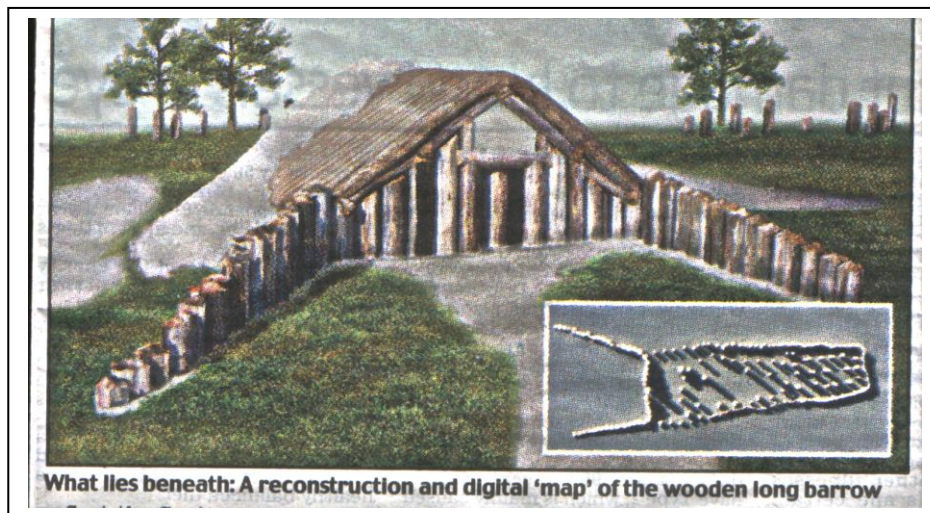


Winter Sunrise at Stonehenge



Stonehenge as it probably was

What has recently been discovered underneath



Some
very
nice
PHQ
cards
from
Sports
Monday



USEFUL WEBSITES

Tony Bray for World new issues at www.tonybray.co.uk

Royal Mail for all past and new issues at www.royalmail.com

The society website with lots of data and links at www.tdps.co.uk

Avion Thematics – one of the best organised sites at www.avionstamps.com

****The Avion website now incorporates the stock listings for Phoenix International****

Portsmouth stamp shop for awkward items and covers at www.portsmouthstampshop.co.uk

A.B.P.S for all the latest philatelic news, events and links at www.abps.org.uk

Recent and Future Royal Mail Issues

September 18th Seaside Architecture

October 14th Prime Ministers

November 4th Christmas

Post and Go issues

September 17th Symbolic Flowers

November 13th Winter Greenery

Sales and Wants

You are able to advertise your items for sale or your` wants` on this page. Please feel free to contact the editor,
Martin Farr, at club meetings, by email or by `phone.

I have some copies of the Picture Post magazine. They are in VG condition and the dates are –
May 31st 1947 and December 25th 1948. Are they birthday dates for anyone?

Any reasonable offers.

We are very sorry to have to tell you that one of our members – Peter Bridger – passed away on 25th July. The funeral was held at the West Berkshire Crematorium where his family and friends attended a lovely service. The society was very well represented and the service was conducted by the Rev. Pete Steele, a long term friend.

Peter was a long-serving member of the society and was awarded Honorary Life Membership in 2006. For many years Peter organised and ran our large annual auction. Even when they moved to Dorset he continued to do so for several years, staying with one of his daughters in Newbury.

Peter was a very nice chap indeed with many friends in the society.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Norma and the family.

We are also very sorry to announce that Peter Schedler passed away recently. Peter came to many of the Monday afternoon meetings and often showed and spoke about his collecting forte of South African flowers and plants.

THE BACK PAGE

“Club Stamps” corner

Club Stamps are well looked after by **Dave Tanner** who will be present at most of our club meetings. There will usually be a Club Table at all stamp fairs held at the Memorial Hall.

Accessories.

Dave is also the contact for the purchase of all philatelic accessories – most of which are available to be ordered at a small discount.

Stamps of the World Catalogue set (normal price - £200) – TDPS price £155 + p&p

Collect British stamps (normal price - £12.95) – TDPS price £10 + p&p

GB Concise (normal price - £30) – TDPS price £23.50 + p&p

A small percentage always goes to club funds. Give Dave a ring on 01256 780467

Future Programme and Events

Monday 6 th October	‘Transport’
Saturday 11 th October	31 st Annual Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall Thatcham. 10am – 4pm. in conjunction with the Festival of Arts and Leisure. Auction lots for November on view.
Thursday 16 th October	‘This and That’ with guest speaker Colin Searle
Saturday 18 th October	Hampex 2014 at Wickham Community Centre
Monday 3 rd November	‘Literature - Authors and Characters’
Thursday 20 th November	Society Auction. Viewing at the Stamp Fair on 11 th October and on Auction night
Monday 1 st December	‘British Inventions’ and Christmas social
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Social Evening, Society Competitions and Quizzes.
Saturday 20 th December	Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall, Thatcham
Monday 5 th January	‘Honours and Awards’

Officers of the Club

President	John Baron	01235 820120
Chairman	Barney Bardsley	0777 0376 235
Vice Chair	Mike Gurr	01635 43398
Secretary	Graeme Stewart	01635 866942
Treasurer	Mike Ward	01635 864307

Committee

Bob Paterson	01635 44848
Tony Jordan	01189 302279
Colin Bartholemew	01635 865457

Archivist	Julia Wilson	WestBex	Graeme and Martin	Publicity	Martin Farr
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